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ADDITIONS TO
THE FLORA OF THE BAHAMA ISLANDS

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During late December of 1968 I collected briefly on the Grand Bahama Island followed by a few days on Eleuthera till 2 January 1969. I returned to Eleuthera the following year and collected for about two weeks during the same December-January period. In total 204 taxa were found besides strictly cultivated plants, bryophytes and algae.

I was surprised on using the 50 year old Bahama Flora (Britton & Millspaugh, New York, 1920) to find that many of my collections represented plants new to the Bahamas and to either the Grand Bahama Island or to Eleuthera. These islands are among the largest in the archipelago, the first tragically undergoing heavy land development, the second of interest because of early settlement (1649) where garden escapes are common-place and often indistinguishable from the native vegetation. Little taxonomic research specific to the Bahamas has been attempted since the Flora, excepting a major contribution by Howard for the Bimini

¹I appreciate the review of this manuscript by Dr. Richard A. Howard, Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University.

Island group (Ecol. Monogr. 20: 317-349, 1950), and perhaps this inactivity accurately reflects the remarkable figure of 28 per cent of the vegetation which I shall report as occurring for the first time in the Bahama Islands or on one of the specific islands visited. This per cent assumes the Flora and Howard's paper as base lines.

Three genera are reported as new to the islands, namely, *Hedyotis* (*Houstonia*), *Rhynchelytrum* (*Tricholaena*) and *Rotala*; additionally *Solidago* is new as a native or naturalized genus. Taxa are listed below in three groups: those new to the Bahama Islands followed by those new to the Grand Bahama Island and to Eleuthera. Numbers refer to my collections and are followed by one or more acronyms indicating place of deposit. A complete set of specimens is housed at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

Having excluded cultivated plants from my data I shall mention only several of the more interesting: on the Grand Bahama Island — *Sorghum coriaceum* Snowden (7178 — GH, MO, NY), *Vitex trifolia* L. var. *subtrisecta* (Kuntze) Moldenke (7124 — FTG, MO, W); and on Eleuthera — *Alternanthera williamsii* (Standley) Standley (7206 — FTG, MO), *Pentas lanceolata* (Forsk.) Deflers (7200 — FTG, MO, NY), and *Pilea serpyllifolia* Wedd. (7525 — FTG, GH, MO).

I. PLANTS NEWLY REPORTED FOR THE BAHAMA ISLANDS

BORAGINACEAE: *Heliotropium angiospermum* Murray: Eleuthera, 7183 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

COMPOSITAE

Flaveria bidentis (L.) O. Ktze.: Eleuthera, 7221 (GH, MO, NY, US).

Solidago sempervirens L.: Grand Bahama Island, 7171 (FTG, MO, NY). See Howard (Ecol. Monogr. 20: 349, 1950) who found the species cultivated in the Bimini Island group.

GENTIANACEAE: *Sabatia stellaris* Pursh: Eleuthera, 7190 (FTG, MO, NY).

GRAMINEAE: *Rhynchelytrum roseum* (Nees) Stapf & Hubb.: Eleuthera, 7230 (MO, US).

LYTHRACEAE: *Rotala ramosior* (L.) Koehne: Grand Bahama Island, 7113 (FSU, FTG, MO, NY, W).

PHYTOLACCACEAE: *Phytolacca purpurascens* A. Br. & Bouché: Grand Bahama Island, 7166 (FTG, MO, NY); see Nowicke (Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 55: 317. 1969).

RUBIACEAE

Hedyotis nigricans (Lam.) Fosb. var. *filifolia* (Chapm.) Shinnars: Grand Bahama Island, 7182 (FSU, FTG, MO, NY, W).

Spermacoce cf. *aspera* Aublet: Eleuthera, 7201 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

VERBENACEAE: *Clerodendrum speciosissimum* Van Geert: Eleuthera, 7203 (FTG, MO). Verified by Dr. Harold N. Moldenke.

II. PLANTS NEWLY REPORTED FOR THE GRAND BAHAMA ISLAND

AMARYLLIDACEAE: *Agave bahamana* Trelease: 7179 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

CASUARINACEAE: *Casuarina equisetifolia* Forst.: 7177 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

COMPOSITAE

Eupatorium odoratum L.: 7170 (FTG, MO, US, USF).

Flaveria linearis Lag.: 7175 (FTG, MO, US).

CYPERACEAE: *Cyperus ferax* L.: 7155 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

EUPHORBIACEAE: *Chamaesyce hirta* (L.) Millsp.: 7156 (FTG, MO, NY). Determined by Dr. Derek Burch.

GENTIANACEAE: *Eustoma exaltatum* (L.) Griseb.: 7158 (MO).

GRAMINEAE: *Uniola paniculata* L.: 7105 (GH, MO, SMU).

LEGUMINOSAE: *Cajanus cajan* (L.) Millsp. (as *Cajanus cajan* (L.) Millsp.): 7126 (FTG, MO); 7129 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

MALVACEAE: *Sida carpinifolia* L.f.: 7147 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

OXALIDACEAE: *Oxalis corniculata* L. (as *Xanthoxalis corniculata* (L.) Small): 7123 (FTG, MO, NY). Determined by Dr. Duncan M. Porter.

POLYGONACEAE: *Coccoloba krugii* Lindau: 7154 (FTG, MO, NY, W). Verified by Dr. Richard A. Howard.

SCROPHULARIACEAE: *Capraria biflora* L.: 7145 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

III. PLANTS NEWLY REPORTED FOR ELEUTHERA

*Distribution from the Flora somewhat questionable, but probably does not include Eleuthera.

AMARANTHACEAE: *Amaranthus dubius* Mart.: 7521A (FTG, GH, MO).

BIGNONIACEAE: *Tecoma stans* (L.) H.B.K.: 7533 (FTG, GH, MO).

BOMBACACEAE: *Ceiba pentandra* (L.) Gaertn.: 7534 (FTG, GH, MO, USF).

COMPOSITAE

Aster bracei Britton: 7459 (FTG, MO, US, USF).

**Erigeron pusillus* Nutt. (as *Leptilon pusillum* (Nutt.) Britton): 7519 (FTG, GH, MO, USF).

Mikania scandens (L.) Willd.: 7465 (FTG, MO, NY, USF).

Vernonia cinerea (L.) Less.: 7223 (FTG, MO, US, USF).

CONVOLVULACEAE: *Ipomoea hederifolia* L. (as *Quamoclit coccinea* (L.) Moench): 7202 (FTG, MO, NY). Determined by Royce L. Oliver.

CYPERACEAE

Cladium jamaicense Crantz (as *Mariscus jamaicensis* (Crantz) Britton): 7491 (FTG, MO, NY, USF).

Cyperus ligularis L.: 7532 (MO, NY).

Dichromena colorata (L.) Hitchc.: 7468 (FTG, MO, NY, USF).

Eleocharis capitata (L.) R. Br.: 7458 (FTG, GH, MO, NY, USF).

EUPHORBIACEAE

**Phyllanthus caroliniensis* Walter subsp. *saxicola* (Small) Webster (as *P. pruinosis* Poeppig): 7472 (FTG, MO, USF).

**P. epiphyllanthus* L. (as *Xylophylla epiphyllanthus* (L.) Britton): 7208 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

Ricinus communis L.: 7537 (FTG, GH, MO, USF).

GENTIANACEAE: *Eustoma exaltatum* (L.) Griseb.: 7436 (FTG, MO, NY, USF).

GRAMINEAE

Chloris inflata Link (as *C. paraquaiensis* Steud.): 7229 (FTG, MO).

Setaria geniculata (Lam.) Beauv. (as *Chaetochloa geniculata* (Lam.) Millsp. & Chase) : 7474 (FTG, MO).

LEGUMINOSAE

Crotalaria incana L. : 7228 (MO).

Parkinsonia aculeata L. : 7234 (FTG, MO, NY, W).

Poinciana regia Bojer (as *Delonix regia* (Bojer) Raf.) : 7515 (FTG, MO).

Stylosanthes hamata (L.) Taubert : 7484 (MO, NY).

Tamarindus indica L. : 7462 (FTG, MO, NY).

LILIACEAE: *Sansevieria quineensis* Willd. : 7449 (FTG, GH, MO, USF).

MALVACEAE

Gossypium barbadense L. : 7447 (FAU, MO, NY) ; 7535 (FTG, GH, MO, USF).

Thespesia populnea (L.) Solander ex Corr. : 7509 (FTG, GH, MO).

OLEACEAE: *Jasminum azoricum* L. : 7501 (FTG, GH, MO, USF).

PASSIFLORACEAE: *Passiflora cupraea* L. : 7423 (FTG, GH, MO) ; 7514 (MO, USF).

RHAMNACEAE: *Gouania domingensis* L. : 7431 (FTG, MO, NY, USF).

SCROPHULARIACEAE: **Capraria biflora* L. : 7210 (FTG, MO, NY, W) ; 7444 (FAU, GH, MO, USF).

THEOPHRASTACEAE: *Jacquinia keyensis* Mez [not of the Flora which is *J. armillaris* Jacq. (*J. barbasco* Mez)] : 7460 (FTG, MO, NY, USF).

VERBENACEAE

Clerodendrum fragrans Vent. var. *pleniflorum* Schauer : 7499 (FTG, GH, MO).

Lantana balsamifera Britton : 7216 (FTG, MO, W). Determined by Dr. Harold N. Moldenke.

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